

## Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 211555

51

ORIGIN ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 DODE-00 SS-20

INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 IO-14 NEA-10

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OIC-04 AEC-11 OMB-01 /148 R

DRAFTED BY OSD/ISA:LMICHAEL

APPROVED BY ACDA/IR:DLINEBAUGH

RPM:ESTREATOR

PM:VBAKER (INFORMED)

NSC:MPOWER

OSD/ISA:RBARTHOLOMEW

JCS:WLAFFERTY (INFORMED)

S/S- MR. GAMMON

----- 088025

O P 261629Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 211555

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: BASIC MBFR DATA

REF: A. STATE 207385 B. VIENNA 8580 C. VIENNA 8702

D. VIENNA 8720 E. STATE 209532 F. STATE 209615

1. AS FIRST STEP IN MEETING IMMEDIATE ALLIED MBFR DATA  
NEEDS SPECIFICALLY ENUMERATED IN REF C WE HAVE PROPOSED  
IN REF E (AS AMENDED BY REF F) THAT ALLIES AGREE TO OVERALL  
FIGURES FOR NATO AND WARSAW PACT GROUND STRENGTH IN NGA,  
SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 211555

US AND SOVIET GROUND STRENGTH IN NGA, AND TOTAL OF TANKS  
IN WARSAW PACT AND NATO ACTIVE UNITS IN NGA.

2. HOWEVER, REF C(PARA 6) ALSO REQUESTED RAPID CLEARANCE

TO RELEASE TO MEMBERS OF NATO AD HOC GROUP IN VIENNA A COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY BREAKDOWN OF WARSAW PACT AND NATO GROUND FORCES IN GUIDELINES AREA PLUS ALLOCATION OF MAIN BATTLE TANKS IN ACTIVE UNITS. FURTHER, REF D ADDS RATIONALE FOR ALLIES TO BE PREPARED TO SUPPLEMENT THESE FIGURES WITH THOSE FOR TANKS STORED IN NGA INCLUDING PREPOSITIONED, WAR RESERVE, AND TANKS IN REPAIR.

3. TO ADDRESS THESE REQUIREMENTS FOLLOWING MEMORANDUM SHOULD BE CIRCULATED TO ALLIES IN BRUSSELS AND VIENNA AND PASSED TO APPROPRIATE FO AND MOD OFFICIALS IN BONN AND LONDON. IN PUTTING FORWARD THIS MEMORANDUM MISSION SHOULD

POINT OUT THAT OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO CONTRIBUTE TO EARLY ALLIED AGREEMENT ON ESSENTIAL DATA. REF E SUGGESTED CERTAIN AGGREGATE FIGURES FOR USE WITH THE PRESS. CURRENT MEMORANDUM WOULD PUT FORWARD THESE FIGURES PLUS SOME OTHERS IN A TABLE FOR USE WITH THE PRESS AND WITH THE EAST. IN A SECOND SUPPORTING TABLE MORE DETAILED FIGURES ARE OUTLINED FOR INTERNAL ALLIED USE AT THIS TIME. ALLIES MAY WISH TO WIDEN RELEASE OF THIS DATA LATER, AND YOU SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT WE RECOGNIZE ADDITIONAL DATA MAY BE NEEDED FOR USE WITH EAST AND FOR INTERNAL ALLIED PURPOSES AND ARE PREPARED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS, BUT BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT TO TAKE THIS LIMITED AND NECESSARY STEP SOONEST.

BEGIN TEXT.

#### BASIC MBFR DATA

THE ALLIES FACE AN IMMEDIATE NEED FOR AGREED BASIC MBFR DATA FOR USE (A) WITH THE EAST AND FOR PUBLIC PRESENTATION AND (B) FOR INTERNAL ALLIED USE.

#### A. DATA FOR USE WITH EAST AND PRESS

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 211555

1. TABLE CONSTITUTES LATEST AND BEST US ESTIMATES, WITH SOME ROUNDING FOR EASE OF PRESENTATION

TABLE 1

NATO/WARSAW PACT FORCES IN NGA:  
DATA FOR USE WITH EAST AND PRESS

GROUND	SEPARATE			
MANPOWER	TANKS	DIVISIONS	BDES/REGTS	
TOTAL NATO	777	6000	26	24

			1		
TOTAL WP	925	15,500	58	10	
US	193	1,400	4	4	
			2		
USSR	460	8,600	27	8	

FYI: 1. INCLUDES 1 SOV TK REGT., 7 SOV TNG REGTS., 1 GDR  
RIFLE REGT. (HONOR GUARD) AND 1 CZECH ABN. BDE.

2. INCLUDES 1 SOV TK REGT, AND 7 SOV TNG REGTS.  
2. IT SHOULD BE NOTED FOR PUBLIC USE THAT TANK FIGURES  
ARE FOR MEDIUM AND HEAVY TANKS ONLY THAT ARE IN ACTIVE OR  
TRAINING UNITS. FYI: APPROXIMATELY 500 SOVIET AND 20 US  
TANKS USED FOR TRAINING PURPOSES IN THE NGA ARE INCLUDED.  
TANK FIGURES DO NOT INCLUDE TANKS IN STORAGE. WE ARE  
REVIEWING FIGURES FOR TANKS IN STORAGE, AND WILL REPORT  
RESULTS SEPTTEL. END FYI. FIGURES ON NUMBERS OF UNITS  
ARE FOR YOUR INFORMATION FOR USE AS APPROPRIATE. IF  
ASKED, ALLIED SPOKESMAN SHOULD TELL PRESS THAT UNIT  
COMPARISONS ARE NOT THAT SIGNIFICANT WHEN COMPARING  
FORCES THAT ARE STRUCTURED DIFFERENTLY. IF TANK FIGURES  
ARE QUESTIONED BY PRESS (WITH STORED TANKS IN MIND) ALLIED  
SPOKESMAN SHOULD CONFINE HIMSELF TO SAYING THAT THERE ARE  
SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF STORED TANKS ON BOTH SIDES.

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 211555

3. THE PRESS WILL CERTAINLY PERSIST IN SEEKING SPECIFIC  
NUMBERS ON NATO AND WARSAW PACT FORCES AND WE MUST  
ANTICIPATE THAT NUMBERS WILL IN ANY CASE BE USED FROM A  
VARIETY OF SOURCES. AT THE SAME TIME, ALLIES HAVE AN  
INTEREST IN MAKING SURE THAT NATO AND EUROPEAN PUBLICS  
HAVE PROPER APPRECIATION OF FUNDAMENTAL FACTS CONCERNING  
THE MILITARY FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE WHICH ARE THE  
SUBJECT OF MBFR AS ALLIES SEE THEM. IN OUR VIEW THIS  
POINTS TO ALLIED AGREEMENT ON BASIC DATA THAT CAN BE  
RELEASED TO PUBLIC AND PRESS AS APPROPRIATE.

4. WE BELIEVE THAT NUMBERS WILL INEVITABLY COME OUT AND  
IT IS NOT THEREFORE A MATTER OF AVOIDING THEM BUT  
RATHER OF INSURING (1) THAT ALLIES SPEAK PUBLICLY WITH  
ONE VOICE TO AVOID MISUNDERSTANDING AND CONFUSION AND  
(2) THAT NUMBERS USED ARE REALISTIC AND CONSISTENT WITH  
THE ALLIED NEGOTIATING EFFORT.

5. ACCORDINGLY, WE BELIEVE THAT ALLIES SHOULD DRAW ON  
NUMBERS IN TABLE 1 WITH THE EAST AND FOR PUBLIC  
PRESENTATION, APPROPRIATELY CAVEATED AS OUR BEST PRESENT  
ESTIMATES.

6. THERE WILL BE, OF COURSE, DATA WE WILL WISH TO USE

WITH EAST AND NOT RELEASE PUBLICLY. HOWEVER, WE ALSO  
BELIEVE BASIC DATA IN TABLE 1 WILL GO FAR TO SATISFYING  
BOTH NEEDS.

#### B. DATA FOR INTERNAL ALLIED USE

1. FOLLOWING TABLE FOR INTERNAL ALLIED USE GIVES  
NATIONAL BREAKDOWN TO SHOW DERIVATION OF TOTALS IN TABLE 1  
(TOTALS MAY NOT ADD DUE TO ROUNDING):

TABLE II

NATO WARSAW PACT FORCES IN GERMANY  
DATA FOR ALLIED INTERNAL USE  
(MANPOWER IN 1,000S)

SECRET

PAGE 05 STATE 211555

	GROUND MANPOWER	TANKS	SEPARATE DIV	BDES/REGTS
TOTAL NATO	777	6,000	26	24
US	193	1,400	4	4
BE	64	370	2	3
CA	3	30		1
FR	63	300	2	1
FRG	321	2,800	12	9
LUX	0.5			
NE	70	600	3	5
UK	62	600	3	1
TOTAL PACT	925	15,500	58	10
USSR	460	8,600	27	8
CZE	155	2,600	10	1
GDR	100	1,350	6	1
POL	210	2,950	15	

NOTE: NATO GROUND MANPOWER FIGURES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING  
BERLIN GARRISON PERSONNEL:

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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**To:** NATO  
VIENNA  
BONN  
LONDON INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS  
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